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NIXON & VANDERHYE, PC 1100 N GLEBE ROAD 8TH FLOOR			EXAMINER	
			MILLER, CARL STUART	
ARLINGTON, VA 22201-4714			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3747	jr.
			DATE MAILED: 08/27/2003	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary Carl S. Miller		:	Applicati n No.	Applicant(s)			
## Deficie Action Summary Examilier	Office Action Summary						
Carl S. Miller - The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the c ver sheet with the c rrespondence address — Period for Reply A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. The MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. The protocommunication is the state of the communication of the protocommunication of the p							
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A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MALLING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. Enter SIX (N) MONTHS from the male and the provisions of 37 CFR 1.138(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed the provision of the pro		- The MAILING DATE of this communication app		1			
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. Exteriors of time may be available under the provides of 37 CFR 1.38(b). In no event, however, may a reply be firely fled after \$X (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to reply within the near mailing date of this communication, each writish the statutory movement of this 400 (days will be considered finally, in the provided of the communication of the provided provided and the state that there emotives that the provided provided by the mailing date of this communication. Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ARANDONED (35 U.S. C. § 133). Any may freeword by the Office after than there emotives after this mailing date of the communication. event if finely filed, may reduce any Status 1) Responsive to communication(s) filled on 05 June 2003. 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final. 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merrits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213. Disposition of Claims 4) Claim(s) 4,8,10-14 and 17-34 is/are pending in the application. 4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrawn from consideration. 5) Claim(s) 3,8,10-14 and 17 is/are allowed. 6) Claim(s) 4 and 34 is/are rejected. 7) Claim(s) 4 and 34 is/are rejected. 7) Claim(s) 4 and 34 is/are rejected. 7) The proposed drawing (s) filed on is/are: all accepted or blood of the drawing (s) filed on is/are: all accepted or blood of the provided or blood of the provided or provided by the Examiner. Application Papers 9) The proposed drawing correction filed on is/are: all accepted or blood of the provided or provided or provided in reply to this office action. 11) The proposed drawing correction filed on is/are: all accepted to by the Examiner. 12) The proposed drawing correction filed on is/are: all accepted or blood or deciration is objected to by the Exam							
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The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 4 and 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Horiuchi (EP ('402).

In particular, Figure 1 of this reference still shows of all of these claim limitations in that the claim only requires that the actuator <u>be</u> a stroke-producing member. There is no requirement that the stroke producer work directly on the needle.

Secondly, claim 4 is <u>perhaps</u> trying to say that the connector and the fastening members are part of a single rigid structure, but the claim is too broad to include such a limitation and a review of the specification regarding element (74) does not indicate that this is necessarily the case.

Claims 8, 10 – 14 and 17 – 33 are allowed.

Applicant's arguments filed June 5, 2003 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

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In particular, the comments made above regarding the rejection of the two noted claims under 35 USC. 102 (b) make any additional arguments unnecessary except to note that element (47) is the fastening member of claim 4.

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Carl Miller at telephone number 703-308-2653.

Carl S. Miller

orimary Examinar